VICA
VOC FOR IOP/FH
POLITICAL FEATURE 1-0813 MAY 20, 1976
JOHN ALBERT

CSCE PROGRESS REPORT: EMIGRATION AND TRAVEL
(SECOND OF TWO SCRIPTS)

ANNCR:

IN WASHINGTON, THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS HAS PREPARED A DETAILED STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION (CSCE), SIGNED NINE MONTHS AGO. VOA'S JOHN ALBERT HAS THE DETAILS IN THIS (THE SECOND OF TWO) REPORT(S).

VOICE:

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REPORT CONCERNS ITSELF EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE SO-CALLED "BASKET THREE" OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE PROVISIONS. THOSE PROVISIONS DEAL WITH THE FREER FLOW OF PEOPLE, INFORMATION, AND IDEAS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. (OPT) THEY WERE INSERTED IN THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT AT THE INSISTENCE OF THE WESTERN AND NEUTRAL NATIONS, BECAUSE THEY REGARDED RIGID CONTROL OF INDIVIDUAL CONTACTS AND THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION AS DETRIMENTAL TO EUROPEAN SECURITY INTERESTS. (END OPT)

IN LOOKING AT SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN ATTITUDES AFTER THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE, THE STUDY FOUND EVIDENCE OF CONSIDERABLE RELUCTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENTS WITHOUT FURTHER BILATERAL AND MULTILATERIAL NEGOTIATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, CERTAIN SLOW PROGRESS WAS MADE, WITH EASTERN EUROPE GERNALLY MORE INCLINED TO BE FORTHCOMING. BULGARIAN, EAST GERMAN MAN CZECHOSLOVAK RESOURCES, IT SAYS, HAVE TENDED TOWARD THE SOVIET POSITION, WHILE POLAND AND HUNGARY HAVE BEEN LESS RIGID.

WITH REFERENCE TO EMIGRATION POLICY, THE SOVIET UNION DID ANNOUNCE CERTAIN SIMPLIFICATIONS OF THE RULES GOVERNING APPLICATIONS. HOWEVER, SAYS THE REPORT, THE CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS DO NOT OF THEMSELVES GUARANTEE THAT EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION WILL BECOME LESS DIFFICULT. REPORTS OF WOULD-BE EMIGRANTS BEING HARASSED, LOSING THEIR JOBS AND HOMES CONTINUE. OTHER NEW RULES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED WHICH MAY MAKE LIFE MORE DIFFICULT FOR APPLICANTS. IN ANY EVENT, THE STUDY SAYS, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO DATE THAT MORE PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY BEING ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE.

IN EASTERN EUROPE THE MOST NOTABLE EMIGRATION AGREEMENT IS THAT BETWEEN POLAND AND WEST GERMANY WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE MOVEMENT OF 125,000 GERMANS FROM POLAND TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS. THE ROMANIAN-AMERICAN TRADE AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS ON EMIGRATION. BUT CZECHOSLOVAKIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE SHOWN NO WILLINGLESS TO ALLOW A REPORTED 20,000 GERMANS TO LEAVE WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE. IN GENERAL HUNGARIAN EMIGRATION POLICIES ARE CONSIDERED TO BE AMONG THE MORE LIBERAL IN EASTERN EUROPE. THERE IS ALSO FREER TRAVEL TO THE WEST FROM ALL OF EASTERN EUROPE, AS COMPARED WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REPORT SAYS THERE'S BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT RELAXATION IN THE IMPORTATION OF WESTERN NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION. NOMINALLY, EIGHTEEN WESTERN NEWSPAPERS ARE ALLOWED TO GO ON SALE IN THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THESE ARE SOLD EXCLUSIVELY AND IN SMALL NUMBER AT TOURIST HOTELS. IN EASTERN EUROPE, FOREIGN

NEWSPAPERS WERE RECEIVING WIDER DISTRIBUTION EVEN PRIOR TO HELSINKI.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REPORT NOTES NO DISCERNIBLE DECLINE IN JAMMING ACTIVITIES SINCE THE HELSINKI SUMMIT, ALTHOUGH JAMMING CONTRAVENES THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PLEDGES. AT THE SAME TIME, A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN BY THE SOVIET UNION, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND EAST GERMANY HAS BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST WESTERN BROADCASTS IN GENERAL, WITH TRANSMISSIONS OF RADIO LIBERTY, RADIO FREE EUROPE AND THE DEUTSCHLANDFUNK BEING THE MAIN TARGETS.

THE GREATEST PROGRESS, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, IS VISIBLE IN THE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE SOVIET UNION NOW GRANTS MULTIPLE ENTRY AND EXIST VISAS AND HAS RELAXED TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. BUT IN EASTERN EUROPE, WHERE IN GENERAL FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HAVE HAD FEWER DIFFICULTIES, EAST GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAVE FROM ALL EVIDENCE TAKEN NO STEPS TO IMPLEMENT NEW REGULATIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN JOURNALISTS.

JS/PY/CAK